

MINE SWEEPING VERY DANGEROUS SEA OCCUPATION

It Is Also One of the Most
Irkesome Which Men of
Sea Have to Perform

(By CLAIR PRICE)

A Well-Known Naval Writer.
London, July 20.—There are a number of phases of minesweeping which are not set down in the books, and which are of as great interest as those things which are set down in the books.

Eighty per cent. of Britain's sweepers are engaged in keeping the route for coastwise merchant traffic clean of mines.

In the North Sea, where a large proportion of Britain's sweepers work, the winter nights are usually about fourteen hours long, and the winds which sweep the North Sea are subject to change without notice. Frequently it will be necessary for the skipper to take the bridge in the middle of the night to combat a sudden gale which has swept down upon him. The vessels have to separate to avoid the danger of a collision, and by dawn they are scattered over a good deal of the North Sea.

Underwater Explosions.
All the sweepers' crews will tell you that their sole enemy is the cutter. This is the little craft which blows up the wrecks at the bottom of the war channel. The cutter's crew are all expert divers, and when the cutter has been run out to where a mined ship has gone to the bottom, the divers are sent down with dynamite to blow up the ship, and thus keep the channel clear.

This is a ticklish job, for which the sweepers are especially grateful, for if there is any exigency which sweepers crews swear over more than any other, it is when their sweep-wire parts on a wreck at the bottom of the war-channel.

It is impossible to sweep around a wreck, for any way you try to work it your sweep-wire will catch, and part. But the cutter takes prompt care of wrecks in the channel, laying its charge of dynamite carefully around it, and then withdrawing and pushing a firing-button. The water bulges upon the surface in a curious, silent manner as the charges go off; but the bottom of the sea carries the sound so well that, although it is practically inaudible on the surface, it conveys the impression to the inhabitants on the shore that heavy firing is going on somewhere out to sea. This completely finishes the wreck, however, and after one blow up the sweep wire passes over the spot as though there had never been a wreck there.

Another Hun Crime!
But the particular reason which excites the envy of the mine-sweepers for the cutter is that the concussion of the cutter's dynamite kills endless quantities of fish, just as the old jug-and-lime trick used to do in the Wisconsin lakes before the Wisconsin declared it illegal. And all the cutter has to do is to steam back where the wreck was, and scoop them up off the surface. Then it goes back to the station from which it set out with dynamite an hour before, laden down with fresh fish. And on the sweepers, although occasionally they do a little fishing, they actually buy fish at the base very often! Imagine a lot of fishermen aboard a fishing-trawler buying fish!

I might add that even when the sweepers explode a mine instead of sinking it—i. e., when a bullet accidentally knocks off a detonator-horn instead of boring a hole into the mine's buoyancy-chamber—ninety per cent. of the mine's explosive force goes into the air, and it is rarely that the concussion succeeds in killing any fish.

Playing With Fire.
A good many mines which have broken adrift from their moorings after a gale over the North Sea, wash ashore, and, after rolling around in the shallows, finally go off, unfortunately killing some of the local inhabitants who gather to watch the frightful globes. It seems incredible, but on a number of occasions civilians who know nothing of mines have endeavored to save mines tossing about offshore, and have been killed. In one town I visited recently, a mine was reported approaching the breakwater one morning, and before the local Coast Guard could come up to take charge, it had gone off, killing seven civilians and wounding twenty. Blowing a great gap in the stone breakwater, hurrying great timbers a quarter of a mile inland and smashing glass in cottages for ten miles around.

By this time, however, the dangers of standing idly by, watching mines drifting ashore, have been well advertised, and nowadays, when a mine is sighted, civilians gather up their children and flee to the inland borders of the town until the mine has been salvaged.

But the greatest damage mines do is to the sweepers. The flow of merchant traffic up and down the coasts of England, which German mines are intended to stop, has not stopped; in fact, has not even abated.

DIED.

WILSON—In Stillwater, Minnesota, July 18, 1918, Frank C., son of Eugene and the late Emma C. Wilson, aged 19 years, 16 days.

Friends are invited to attend the funeral from Henry E. Bishop's mortuary chapel, No. 274 Fairfield avenue, on Tuesday, July 23d, at 2 o'clock.

Interment at Mt. Grove cemetery, P20 b*
LOGAN—In Stratford, Saturday, July 20, 1918, Michael Logan, aged 74 years, 8 months, 8 days.

Funeral from his late residence, Surf avenue on Tuesday morning, July 23rd, at 8:30, and from St. Charles' church, where a solemn high mass will be offered for the repose of his soul at 9 o'clock. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Burial in St. Michael's cemetery, Automobile cortege, P20 b*
AIKEN—In this city, Monday, July 22, 1918, Maud M., wife of Thomas J. Aiken, aged 27 years, 1 month, 27 days.

Friends are invited to attend the funeral from her late residence 354 Nichols street, on Wednesday, July 24, at 2 o'clock.

Burial in Lakeview cemetery, Automobile cortege, P21 b*
P21 b*

HOWLAND'S

Entrances in Main street, Fairfield avenue and Cannon street

HOWLAND'S

The Weather—Fair tonight and Tuesday.

Store hours:--8:30 to 5 daily except Saturday; then open till 9 p. m.

Fresh new lots have joined the Mill End Sale!

Lots of reserves to back up the original Mill End force.

Makers have offered new lots. When they are up to the standard we buy 'em. Some are here.

Great attacks made by Mill End shoppers cleared up many lots. Others have hurried to the front to fill the ranks.

And the sale goes forward bravely and with spirit—General Economy is its commander!

Some of the Home Economies.

Long-wearing and attractive rugs of carpet size—especially good for service in rooms where hard wear is to be expected.

Tapestry Brussels weave and without a seam, in small and pretty allover patterns worked out in Oriental color effects, 9 by 12 feet—regular \$35—**\$29**

Colonial rag rugs of bright and cheerful color and characteristic patterns, woven from new fresh strips of cotton, excellent for use in bedrooms—30 by 60 inches; regular \$1.50—**\$1.19**

Axminster rugs to hide worn spots in larger rugs or to use in space between adjoining rooms, heavy weight, handsome floral and Oriental designs, 36 by 72 inches—regular \$5.50 and \$6—**\$4.95**

Reversible Smyrna rugs of wool, good colors, tasteful patterns, 36 by 40 inches—regular \$3.75—**\$2.95**

Art cretonne for draperies, many Summery and beautiful patterns and pleasing colors, yard wide—regular 35c yd—**28c**

Lacy mercerised scrims and marquisesettes with hem-stitched edge, nice quality, 38 inches wide,—regular 59c to 65c yd—**55c**

Cottage curtains of ruffled muslin, ready for use,—**90c**

Bordered scrims of excellent effect, white or Arabian, **12½c**

Third floor.

Bungalow dresses, wonderful savers-- \$1.45.

Slip them on over usual attire, when home tasks need to be done and there is scant time to change from finer dress.

Or don them till morning work is completed.

Tasteful checks and plaids, button in back, all belted, some with elastic belt across back to insure closer fit, 3-4 sleeve—**\$1.45**

Second floor.

Table silver at but 14c.

Knives forks and spoons of silverplate that will not turn!

For every one is plated heavily upon a base of nickel silver.

That means that when outer plate does wear, base is white and polished and sanitary.

From W A Rogers, of good weight, of graceful shape and with a pretty beaded edge.

Simple, tasteful, worthy,—and in all of the wanted sizes—**14c**

Left aisle, rear.

Here are dresses of lovely voile for girls & small women.

Handsome pleated tunics are to beautify some of the smartest of the new dresses for next Autumn. They appear on these new voile dresses!

Long graceful lines. Handsome and fine fabric. Rich color effect. Splendid value. A notable Mill End offering!

Plain handsome dark blue and equally rich blue marked off into plaids by white lines. Small-figured allover designs in soft grays and tans. Rich stripes on soft tints; some of those stripes with the gleam of satin.

And style, whether the particular tunic or one of the new draped effects, new and attractive.

At the price of \$15, these dresses would be of extra value; ready for Mill Enders at—**\$9.75**

Second floor.

Dainty underwear hurries forward eagerly.

Two days ago, in the stockroom of one of our good friends.

Now, ready for Mill Enders to buy at saving.

A nice big lot, made up of many small lots. 'Tis his collection of odds and ends at close of season—and 'tis of impressive goodness.

Soft fine muslins and nainsooks. New attractive comfort-giving style. Prettiest of filmy laces and simple embroideries. Many unique attractive patterns.

Notable array of popular envelope chemises, sizes 34 to 44, regular \$1.25 to \$2.50—**79c to \$1.95**

Slipover and excellent long-sleeve nightgowns, style-range from simple edge of embroidery to trimming of rich lace; regular \$1.50 to \$2.50—**\$1.15 to \$1.89**

Camisoles of sheer allover embroidery in several patterns, finished with ribbon straps and decoration; regular \$1—**69c**

Second floor.

Cool savings for men.

Nainsook underwear brings greatest of Summer comfort to men.

Very light fine cotton fabric, woven not knitted.

Cut in athletic style:—not an inch of surplus cloth but so shaped that it gives genuine freedom.

Pure white, light, easily laundered.

Shirts and drawers—regular 50c—**42c**

Fine silk negligé shirts, luxurious in effect yet actually of great durability—and how comforting!

Handsome light patterns, finely made—regular \$4—**\$3.25**

Light fine firm lisle socks for wear with low shoes, handsome colors and deep black—regular 35c—**27c**

Negligé shirts of firm light cotton fabrics in pretty and Summery patterns, smooth fitting and with no bunchy spots—regular \$1.50—**\$1.19**

Right of Main street door.

Little and unusual lawn dressing-sacks-- 95c

Quite the prettiest and coolest of the season.

Fine-checked lawn in delicate tints and several sizes of check.

No, not ordinary checks; mostly made by fine lines of one color contrasting with another.

Tasteful flat collar, trimmed with narrow fine embroidery—**95c**

Second floor.

Fine fresh silk skirts-- \$5.95.

Latest of the pretty styles of Summer.

Rarely graceful and beautiful; whether white or black or blue.

And of splendid silk or satin—marked by that one distinctive feature of the season: large and joyous pockets.

White or black satin, shirred all around at waist-line.

Deep blue taffeta, remarkable quality and luster.

They have very great durability. Their effect is refined and beautiful. Their usual price would be not less than \$7.50—**\$5.95**

Second floor.

More delighting waists-- \$1.95.

Dozens of them, marked by coolness and beauty and fineness.

Pure white voile—with eyelet embroidery and effective lace and pretty embroidery.

Even some of the new slipovers made of allover-embroidered voile.

And what fine voile it is; usually to be found only in waists at not less than \$2.50!

Dozens of styles as well as of waists. Every pretty type of collar. Many pretty styles of trimming. And always, real Summer comfort is combined with beauty,—**\$1.95**

Second floor.

Billie Burke dresses, ideal of service.--\$2.65.

One dollar more than Mill End price; that would be fair figure for these Billie Burkes.

For they are of exceptional chambray or gingham or soisette.

All in typical Billie Burke model, loose-fitting but attractive and pretty—and finished with white collar and cuffs.

Ideal home dresses—for they are pretty enough for wear when rest-hour arrives: and fitted for wear during busy household hours!

Chambray in solid colors, gingham and soisette in handsome stripes—**\$2.65**

Second floor.

THE HOWLAND DRY GOODS CO.